

FRANCE FACES GREATEST CALAMITY IN HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE

**Government's Estimates Loss Already at \$500,000,000—
Appalling Visitation Overwhelms the People—
Thousands Driven from Homes By Police to Places
of Safety—Streets Sinking, Marines Rescuing Peo-
ple in Boats—Starvation Adds to Misery of Sur-
roundings.**

**American Ambassador Must Abandon Home As Water
Had Reached Beyond First Floor of His Apartment
City Faces Extinction If Relief Does Not Come
Shortly—River Seine Still Rising and There Ap-
pears to Be No Chance to Stem the Tide—Half
Crazed People Wander About Bereft of Home and
French Government Blamed for Not Providing
Sooner for Relief of the Destitute.**

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN PARIS FLOOD SITUATION.

Government red tape delays relief, threatening starvation for many destitute.

Miles of streets sinking into collapsed subways, which have been wrecked by rushing torrents. Marines in boats rescuing people from homes.

Senate orders government officials to draw on government for needed funds.

Sorrowful procession of unfortunates from flooded environs pour into Paris.

Park custodian committed suicide when he sees extent of flood damage.

Police drive half crazed residents from their endangered homes.

German Embassy, Ministry of Public Works, President Fallieres' residence, Palace of Fine Arts, City Hall, big department stores, latest important buildings to be flooded.

Food prices still soaring.

Public halls, churches and schoolhouses crowded by destitute victims.

Chamber of Deputies Courtyard, Champs Elysee, Lower Esplanade, Des Invalides, La Cite, Champs de Mars, and Trocadero Park submerged.

Eliff tower surrounded by water.

(Special from United Press.)

Paris, Jan. 27.—The flood loss in Paris alone will reach \$200,000,000, according to estimates made by government officials this afternoon. A loss almost as great has already been sustained in other parts of France. The total loss, it is believed, will reach the staggering total of half a billion dollars.

The family of Ambassador Robert Bacon will probably have to move before the day is over. The water has now reached the first floor of the residence of the American ambassador, and the family is being forced to take refuge in the Hotel Dieu Hospital and the Boucicaut Hospital are out of commission. Surgeons are performing operations by the light of lamps and candles and the operating rooms are heated by cotton wadding saturated with alcohol.

The Home of the Aged in Ivry, where there are 2,000 inmates, has only enough food to last three days. It is impossible to remove the inmates, owing to the swift flow of the water that surrounds the home.

Paris, Jan. 27.—The "pinch of hunger" is rapidly giving way to the actual danger of starvation for hundreds of flood-ridden unfortunates in Paris and other parts of France, and all because of the excessive red tape with which the French government always conducts its affairs in such crises as the present.

Unless private charities meet the urgency of the desperate situation, starvation for many is believed inevitable.

The government is acting with its usual deliberation in sending out supplies and every bit of relief it furnishes must first be passed upon by a long list of functionaries.

One has only to go to the St. Sulpice Seminary, a former church property that has been converted into a refuge for the flood victims, to see to what dire straits the poor have been reduced. Hundreds of ragged women and children and a few old men crowd the building. They are huddled together on the floor, Paris awakes today of soup and bread with an avidity that shows that the relief came to them none too soon.

Similar scenes are witnessed in other of the improvised hospitals.

The Pantheon will not be available for two days yet as a refuge. Heat must be obtained first as it is extremely cold within its stone walls.

The condition of the hundreds, who are being cared for after a fashion by the city, is desperate. Many who have lost everything are found clinging to their ruined property or wandering aimlessly about the streets.

The police are constantly picking up such and sending them to the relief stations. The soldiers and police are forcibly ejecting everyone found in homes that are deemed unsafe.

Paris, Jan. 27.—The thermometer below the freezing point and the relentless river Seine continuing its devastating progress toward the top of the retaining walls, Paris awoke today to what may prove the most trying day in her history, aside from the crisis presented by war.

What the end of the unprecedented flood will be, no one can say, but it is enough to know that never before has the gay capital been so severely smitten in a physical way.

Miles of the boulevard, one of the city's chief points of pride, have been washed away; many of the most notable structures in the city, to see which travelers have been wont to come from the foremost countries of the earth; thousands are homeless and subsisting on scant provisions furnished by the city; the industrial life

The Louvre Museum is still free of water except in the basement. Engineers are trying to prevent the sewer in front of the Louvre from collapsing with water.

President Fallieres' palace in the Champs Elysee was flooded today. Water broke through the sewer under the Place de la Concorde and damaged many houses along the street. The Palace of Fine Arts and the city hall were also invaded by the spreading waters.

The Isle De St. Louis is almost submerged and the Halle Aux Vins, the largest wine warehouse in the world, is now standing in water.

The courtyard of the Chamber of Deputies is submerged. Water is now all around the Eiffel Tower and the Grand Palais. Trocadero Park are covered with water.

Water is several feet deep in the lower Esplanade Des Invalides.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Inquiries are being received at the State Department from Americans who have relatives and friends residing in Paris, as a result of the alarming reports of floods in France. Consul Mason has been directed to report on the situation.

200 VESSELS LOST IN EUROPEAN SEAPORTS.

London, Jan. 27.—Partial returns today from European seaports show that fully 200 vessels, mostly small sailing craft, have been lost in the storm of the last 48 hours and that there has been loss of life in the sinking of at least half of these boats. Italy, Spain, Germany and the Scandinavian countries all report tremendous loss in property and life, with a greatly increased death toll.

The report that a tidal wave had swept Venice proves to be without foundation but the city has suffered heavily from the storm, many buildings and houses being cut off from outside communication and the extent of damage there cannot be ascertained.

Rescuing parties are searching for a dozen Alpine tourists who have not been heard from for two days. Snow has been heavy on the Alpine passes and makes it probable that many of the mountaineers and tourists have been cut off from escape.

Railway traffic in Denmark is badly interrupted and half a dozen trains are reported inaccessible from snow blockades. The passengers are without food and fuel. The snows in Scandinavia are the heaviest in several years and most of the smaller towns are isolated.

ANDERSON CHARGES FRAUD TO PARKER & KOLB, JEWELERS

PAPERS IN SUIT ALLEGE THAT
DIAMONDS WORTH \$600 WERE
REPRESENTED TO BE WORTH
\$1,255.

Alleging misrepresentation, Clarence D. Anderson of Anderson & Co., has brought suit for \$2,500 against Dwight A. Parker, Roland S. Kolb and Thornton H. Robinson, who conducted a jewelry business in the Arcade under the firm name Parker & Kolb. The plaintiff alleges that the defendants came to him and asked for the loan of \$1,200, stating that they would give as collateral diamonds in excess of that amount. After the note for that amount was drawn, diamonds worth \$1,255.91 were deposited with Anderson & Co.

Anderson now alleges that their representations were false and fraudulent, as there was only \$600 worth of the stones deposited with him. The suit was filed in the Superior court this morning.

JUDGE WHEELER FINES DR. CLARKE FOR CONTEMPT

It does not pay to discredit the authority of the law, Dr. James A. Clarke, medical examiner for Greenwich, this morning failed to answer the summons served on him to appear in court, in the civil suit of Charles V. McCann against Peter McGuire, both of Stamford. When the physician's name was called as a witness and he did not respond, Judge George W. Wheeler ordered a capias issued. Deputy Sheriff Hendrie of Stamford arrested Dr. Clarke. Both arrived at the court house this afternoon. As Dr. Clarke could not give any plausible reason for his not answering the summons, the court fined him \$5 for contempt. This is the second time during the present session of the Civil Superior Court that Judge Wheeler has imposed a like fine. The wife of a well known Stamford produce dealer, being the first offender.

Dr. Clarke was the medical examiner on the body of Charles D. McCann who was killed in Greenwich on Sept. 29, 1908, by being run down by an auto driven by Peter McGuire, who is the chauffeur for Julian W. Curtis, a prominent resident of Stamford. Young McCann, who was but 17 years of age, was a new boy. His route was so large that he used a horse and wagon. The youth became frightened at the speed of the auto and jumped from his wagon to the roadway in an attempt to make the street. The defense claims that there was contributory negligence, because if the boy had remained in the wagon he would not have been hit.

TROLLEYMEN WILL SEEK MORE PAY

NEW ENGLAND JOINT CONFERENCE BOARD SOON TO AUTHORIZE DEMAND.

THIS BOARD REPRESENTS 4,000 EMPLOYEES OF NEW HAVEN RAILROAD COMPANY.

Thirty Cents An Hour is Minimum Upon Which Negotiations Will Be Urged—Increased Cost of Living Makes More Pay Necessary, Men Say.

(Special to the Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 27.—A demand upon the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad company for a maximum wage of 30 cents an hour for the 4,000 trolley men employed by the company in Connecticut and Massachusetts is looked for next week after the session of the New England Joint Conference Board of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees which will be held here on Monday.

All of the local divisions of the association have been polled. Bridgeport being the last division to be polled on last Tuesday night, and all have voted to instruct the members of the conference board to enter into negotiations with the company for more pay. In Connecticut every city where the Connecticut Co. operate cars, the trolley men are organized with the exception of Waterbury where the men have not had a union since the last strike.

The demand of the united employees of all the organized divisions will be the largest aggregate wage increase demand ever made upon the company at one time.

Last Fall the company expected a demand for a wage increase as the winter months approached. The company is in a position to pay a wage increase of about \$2,000 per day or about \$730,000 per annum.

A member of the organization said today, "The demand will not be any more than the company is able to pay. We are not asking for more than what we are entitled to. We are asking for a wage increase of 30 cents an hour, which is the minimum wage in the city of New Haven."

The officers of the New England Joint Conference Board are Charles W. Minnix, of New Haven, chairman; H. Reardon, of Hartford, secretary; M. J. Hennessey, of Springfield, treasurer; and C. W. Lane of Springfield, secretary. Each of the divisions has a representative on the board.

The cities and towns through which the organized trolley men operate include, Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury, Meriden, Middletown, Springfield, Plainville, Bristol, New Britain, Norwich, Middletown, Norwalk, Bristol, Port Chester, Stamford, Meriden and Danbury.

As the men work about 10 hours each day the increase asked for will mean an addition to the payroll of the company of about \$2,000 per day or about \$730,000 per annum.

There is no reason why the wages of trolley employees should not be increased to compare favorably with those of other railroad employees. The result would be that the company would have a more efficient and better paid force of men.

"Another change the union men would like is an increase in overtime pay. At present they are paid at the rate of the regular pay plus five cents for each hour overtime. In other lines of work men get pay for time and a half or double time for extra work."

The action of the organization in preparing for the demand of the company has been conducted along the most modern lines and in keeping with the best ethics of organized labor. The plan of polling all of the men such as in vogue among the organized steam railroad men has been followed. The result of the poll is not known except that the majority are in favor of 30 cents an hour. Whether the judgment of the members of the conference board will cause a medium figure between 25 and 30 cents an hour rests with the board although it is understood that the board favored putting the question before the members upon the 30 cent basis.

The demand coming from the allied divisions reflects strongly the sentiments of workmen through New England and shows that the trolley men in this section of the country were never so well organized as at the present.

"It may be all right to talk about boycotting the beef trust but men who are on their feet operating cars for 10 and 11 hours a day have got to have meat twice a day. They cannot be vegetarians for the sake of earning \$2.50 per day. It costs about \$1 to put five pounds of meat on a working man's table and to feed a family of four or five three times a day seven days a week don't leave much of the \$2.50 a day to pay rent, pay the doctor, buy clothes, and meet other expenses."

REDMOND AND ASQUITH COME TO AGREEMENT

Home Rule for Ireland to Be Overshadowing Issue in Next English Election

Liberals and Nationalists Will Work in Complete Union to Reform House of Lords.

(Special from United Press.)

London, Jan. 27.—Home rule for Ireland will be the overshadowing issue in the next English election, according to an agreement that is reported today on the highest authority to have been reached between Premier Asquith and John Redmond, the Nationalist leader.

According to this authority, the Liberals and Nationalists will work in complete union in the next session of the House of Lords, in the budget fight and in support of a bill to effect sweeping election law reforms.

There will be no possibility of its passing in the next session. It is believed that 20 per cent. of the Liberals themselves oppose home rule, but the issue will be made the chief contention in the next election.

The election reform bill, if passed, as now drafted, will be of immense advantage to the Liberals and is counted on to keep them in power regardless of the storm of opposition that the home rule issue will arouse.

This would insure the passage of the home rule bill at the subsequent parliamentary session.

Politicians generally deem the compact between Asquith and Redmond the most important political agreement of recent years and most of the members of the House of Lords, in the budget fight and in support of a bill to effect sweeping election law reforms.

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ANNIE MOSKIL'S FEET ARE SAVED

Annie Moskil's feet have been saved by the surgeons at St. Vincent's hospital. The young woman, assaulted, robbed and thrown into a well by her supposed husband and an accomplice, will suffer no ill effects of the crime.

She has recovered practically all her money, and within a few days it is expected she will be able to leave the hospital.

Her feet will be sore for many a day, but she will not have to undergo the amputation that had been feared since she was taken out of the well.

ELKS POOL AND BILLIARD TOURNAMENT STARTS TONIGHT

The Elks pool and billiard tournament will be opened by a game between the two captains of the contesting teams, W. R. Hurley representing the Purple, and John Sheard representing the White, immediately after the regular session Thursday evening, January 27.

DYING MAN THRUST INTO FOUL CELLAR TO MAKE WAY FOR WEDDING

Appalling Condition Disclosed By Charities Department's Investigation

Forced to vacate his own bedroom in order to make way for decorations for the forthcoming wedding feast of his sister next Saturday, George Puder, aged 21, has been confined in a dark, foul cellar, left to die upon a bunk of dirty bedclothing on which his life is ebbing away in the last stages of consumption. Puder's plight was disclosed this afternoon in an investigation begun by the Charities and Health departments, and immediate steps were taken for his removal to the Tuberculosis hospital at Lakeview home.

Puder is the son of Stephen Puder, a laborer, whose second wife is George's stepmother. Several weeks ago Puder returned from Lakeview home where he had been under treatment since December. This morning complaint was made to Superintendent Brennan of the Charities Department who sent Investigator Morrissey to the scene. Later Morrissey returned with Health Inspector Lynch.

The Puder family live in a small flat in a large tenement house. Their rooms are four in number. The front room was used by the invalid, the next by the parents, the third by other children.

"No!" protested the dying youth feebly. "I won't go to any hospital. I'm going to stay home, but I want my own room." Investigator Morrissey persisted and Puder became almost violent in his protests.

"I'll cut my throat first!" he exclaimed. "Get my own room if you can, but don't take me away from my own home. Here's where I belong and here's where I'm going to stay."

FRED SCHREIBER SUED.

Not the Superintendent of Streets, However, But a Factory Foundryman of Same Name.

Frederick Schreiber, foreman of the Pequot foundry residing at 278 Catherine street, has been named as the defendant in a suit for \$1,500 brought by Antonio Mastroianni, an Italian laborer, who alleged that Mr. Schreiber, Nov. 8, 1909, ran him down with his automobile, at Main

and High street. The plaintiff alleges that Mr. Schreiber was driving his car on the left side of Main street. As the plaintiff was crossing High street the auto swerved to the left and ran upon the crosswalk and into the plaintiff, knocking him down. He received a fracture of the shoulder blade, and has been two months in the hospital. The accident, the plaintiff asserts, was due to the negligence of the defendant in that he proceeded along Main street at a reckless and unreasonable rate of speed.

SPECIAL TOMORROW—Men's rubber heels, 40 cents; ladies' 30 cents. Sterling, 275 State St. A 27 s'to

FOR SALE—Two flat 12 room, William St., \$5000, \$1100 cash. D. R. Whitney, 1025 Main St. A 27 b'to

FOR SALE—Building lot on Catherine St., near Washington avenue. D. R. Whitney, 1025 Main St. A 27 b'to

FOR RENT—Six room tenement all improvements, 171 Orchard St. A 27 s'to

ONE MORE square piano left at \$10. Also one at \$25. The M. Steinert & Sons Co., 915 Main St. A 27 s'to

COWS FOR SALE—F. J. Parker, Fairfield, R. F. D. No. 9, opposite Duck Farm. A 27 s'to

COMPOSITORS WANTED.—First class job men only. The Joyce Press. A 27 s'to

BENEFIT WHIST given tonight at 1179 Broad street. Score cards 15 cents. A 27 s'to

ONE SECOND HAND Weber Piano in every fine condition \$85. Easy payments if desired. The M. Steinert & Sons Co., 915 Main St. A 27 s'to

ONE MATHUSHEK used upright piano in good condition \$125. Steinert's guarantee. The M. Steinert & Sons Co., 915 Main St. A 27 s'to

LOST.—Gold seal ring, shield bearing three roses; motto below the shield, Dduw-duw-Adigen. Suitable reward if returned to 174 Park Place. A 25 s'to 24 b

FOR SALE—A furnished room house, full of roomers, central. Roomers, care of Farmer. A 28 b'to

TYPEWRITING — Mimeographing Notary Public. Sears, 108 Meigs Bldg. P 17 to

TO RENT—5 or 6 rooms, all improvements. 44 Third St. A 26 s'to

TO RENT—Flat, 214 Congress St. No children. A 26 s'to

FOR LEASE—Eight rooms, all improvements, 1347 Fairfield avenue, to a desirable party. G. C. Stewart, 617 State street. A 26 s'to

STORE TO RENT, 270 Bunnell St. Enquire 292 Bunnell St. A 26 d'to

LOST—Sunday night a silver cigarette case, reward if returned to John Foster, Jr., 956 Main St. A 26 b'to

WANTED—To buy a saloon. Address F. P. care of Farmer. A 21 d'to

AUCTION SALE BUILDING LOTS—Thursday, February 3, 2 p. m., on the premises, Carroll avenue near Connecticut avenue. Only four lots remaining unsold. Sewer, Gas, water and sidewalk complete, all ready for building. Each lot 33x100 feet. Large amount can remain at 5 per cent. Must be seen to be appreciated. A. Elwood, Auctioneer. A 27 d'to

NOTICE.

Members of Clan Campbell are requested to attend the funeral of our late Brother, William Smith from his residence, 126 Ogden St., at 1:30 p. m., Friday, 28th.

THOMAS STEWART, Chief.